

[1st March 1927]

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ As I have stated in the answer, a report has been called for, and before we get the report, we cannot say what action may be taken. ”

Failure of crops in North Arcot district.

* 119 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether on the applications received from the villages of Kaveripakkam, Kondapuram, Cheri and Kannlari for remission of tax on account of the failure of the second crop for fasli 1335, the revenue officers have visited and examined completely the lands in the abovesaid villages;

(b) if so, how much amount has been sanctioned by way of remission for each of the above villages;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to order the postponement of the collection of tax till March for fasli 1336 as the crops have totally failed in some places, and partially in some other places, owing to lack of water in the Kaveripakkam tank and the failure of the rains;

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to appoint a special officer to look into and report about the failure or otherwise of the crops and not solely depend on the report of the revenue officers and karnams;

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to levy only punja rates of tax, if any crops are raised in nanjai lands for the second part of fasli 1336 solely by baling out water from the wells;

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to collect the tax in six instalments instead of four with respect to the lands in the district of North Arcot or at least to the lands in Arkonam taluk, or at least to the lands in villages irrigated by Kaveripakkam tank; and

(g) what orders have been passed, on petitions to the District Collector, North Arcot, and on the resolutions passed at the Irrigation Conference at Ranipet in respect of the remission of land tax for fasli 1336 owing to failure of crops on account of drought?

A.—(a) The Government have no reason to think otherwise.

(b) The Government have not the information.

(c) No orders of Government are necessary to postpone the collection of kist to March. The Board of Revenue is competent to sanction the postponement of collection within the fasli and the Collector will no doubt obtain the orders of the Board, if necessary.

(d) The suggestion does not commend itself to Government. They have no reason to think that the local revenue officers are incapable of discharging their ordinary duties.

(e) The hon. Member's attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of Board's Standing Order No. 6.

(f) The answer is in the negative.

(g) The Government are not aware of the resolutions referred to and have no information as to the action taken on them by the Collector.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ With reference to (a), it is stated ‘the Government have no reason to think otherwise.’ My information is that the area has not been visited by the various officers as often as is

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necessary. In the light of this information, will the Government be pleased to ascertain, instead of merely guessing, whether the officers in the district have really visited the area?"

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"With reference to (b), the Government say they have not the information. Will they be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"As regards the first supplementary question, I will refer the matter to the Collector of the district. As to the second, I have not got the information and it will be some time before it is available, because the final figures will not be available till after the jamabandi."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"With regard to clause (c), I know that the Board of Revenue is competent to deal with the matter of the postponement of collection of kist. But what I want to know is whether the Collector has reported recommending postponement of collection to the Board of Revenue?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"If the hon. Member wishes to have information on the matter, I shall call for it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"I very much wish to have it, Sir."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I ask what effect has been given to the resolution passed by this House recommending remission so far as the district of North Arcot is concerned?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I think that is a subject on which a question has been put and a detailed answer separately given."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"With regard to clause (c) of the answer, it refers to paragraph 5 of the Board's Standing Order, but the case of Kaveripakkam is very peculiar--it is compounded wet--and I do not think it is covered fully by the answer. Therefore, will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to direct the attention of the Revenue officers to this aspect of the question, viz., that the assessment there is compounded wet and unless an exception is made in this case the people will have to go without relief as they have gone for the last three years?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I do not quite understand what the hon. Member means by compounded wet. If he means that the second crop assessment has been compounded for, then it will have to be paid for. That is the object of composition."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"With reference to the Kaveripakkam ayacut, both crops have failed for the last three years. Therefore I would ask the hon. the Revenue Member to give special attention to this case. Under the ordinary rules, these ryots would go without any remission. There has been a complete failure of both crops for the last three years?"

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know the particular reason for the negative answer to clause (f)?"

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The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ As regards the first question, Sir, I must say I do not quite understand what the hon. Member wants to be done. If he were to put it in writing, I would be glad to consider it. As regards the second question, why the answer is in the negative, we do not know any reason why it should not be.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ I shall state my contention in writing and send it on to the hon. Member in two or three days.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SYED :—“ Will the hon. the Revenue Member, in view of the resolution passed in the last Council, see his way to give effect to that? ”

Depressed Classes

Provision of house-sites for the depressed classes in Malabar.

* 120 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government agree with the view of the Commissioner of Labour on the question of provision of house-sites for the depressed classes in the district of Malabar expressed in paragraph 23 of his Administration Report for 1925-26 ; and

(b) whether the Government propose to refer the question for report to the Collector after ascertaining the opinion of public bodies engaged in the work of amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No. The report of the Commissioner of Labour is based upon the views of the Collector of Malabar and the Honorary District Labour Officer on the subject.

Operations of the Labour department in South Kanara.

* 121 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the depressed classes in certain parts of South Kanara, chiefly in Coondapoor and Uppinangadi taluks, are not getting the benefit of the work which the Labour department is doing for them in the district ; and

(b) whether Government propose to extend the operations of the Labour department to those parts also ?

A.—(a) The special operations of the department have not yet been extended to the two taluks specified.

(b) Yes.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—“ With regard to answer to (b), when do the Government propose to extend the operations to those parts ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ We hope to do so after April.”

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Has the Labour Commissioner reported about the necessity for extending these operations to those taluks ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes, Sir.”